

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /135 W

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R 031745Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1539

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 05422

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, GW, US, UK, FR, UR

SUBJECT: REPLY TO USSR ON BUNDESTAG PRESIDUM MEETING
IN BERLIN

REF: A. STATE 65429; B. BONN 5004; C. MOSCOW 46

1. AT BONN GROUP MEETING APRIL 2, US REP PRESENTED
DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS CONTAINED REFTEL A AND DEPARTMENT
DRAFT CONTAINED SAME REFTEL. FRG REP (LUECKING) SAID
HIS AUTHORITIES HAD APPROVED BONN GROUP TEXT (REFTEL B)
BUT HE FOUND THE DEPARTMENT DRAFT MORE DESIRABLE.
HOWEVER, IT WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO FRG THAT REPLY
BE MADE QUICKLY. HE SAID HE HOPED TOTAL AGREEMENT COULD
BE REACHED SO THAT A REPLY TO SOVIETS COULD BE MADE.

2. UK (CROMARTIE) AND FRENCH (PAYE) REPS SAID LONDON
AND PARIS HAD APPROVED BONN GROUP AD REF TEXT.
CROMARTIE SAID THAT LANGUAGE OF THIS TEXT HAD BEEN VERY
CAREFULLY DRAFTED TO MAKE REPLY AS NEUTRAL AS POSSIBLE,
AND THAT UK WAS NOT PREPARED TO REJECT TOTALLY ALL
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POINTS OF THE SOVIET ORAL STATEMENT. HE SAID HE
BELIEVED REFERENCE IN BONN GROUP TEXT TO "ORGANS OF

BUNDESTAG INCLUDING THOSE REFERRED TO IN YOUR ORAL COMMUNICATION" WOULD NOT HAVE IMPLICATION ASSERTED IN US REP PRESENTATION SINCE QA ANNEX II PARA 2 NOTES, IN ADDITION TO ENUMERATED BODIES, THAT "OTHER STATE BODIES. . . WILL NOT PERFORM IN WSB CONSTITUTIONAL OR OFFICIAL ACTS" CONTRARY TO ANNEX II PARA 1 AS INTERPRETED IN LETTER OF ALLIED AMBASSADORS. CONSEQUENTLY, HE SAID, ALL "STATE BODIES" ARE SUBJECT TO SOME RESTRICTION WHEN MEETING IN WSB.

3. FRENCH REP SAID THAT LONG DELAY IN RESPONDING WAS CERTAINLY NOT LOST ON SOVIETS, THAT MOST IMPORTANT POINT NOW WAS TO MAKE REPLY. HE ASKED THAT US REP REQUEST APPROVAL FROM AUTHORITIES FOR BONN GROUP TEXT "WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY OTHER THREE". US REP UNDERTOOK ONLY TO REPORT.

4. COMMENT: IT WOULD SEEM THAT TWO CHOICES ARE OPEN TO US: (1) DECIDING BETWEEN WHICH IS WORSE--NO REPLY AT ALL OR AGREEING TO TEXT REFTEL B OR ONE VERY CLOSE TO IT (WE BELIEVE WE MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON SUBSTITUTION IN PARA B "FRG STATE BODIES" FOR "ORGANS OF THE BUNDESTAG, INCLUDING THOSE REFERRED TO IN YOUR ORAL COMMUNICATION"); OR (2) AS NEGOTIATING TACTIC INFORMING BONN GROUP THAT WE PREFER NO REPLY IN EXPECTATION THAT THIS WILL CAUSE OTHERS TO RETHINK MATTER AND PERHAPS SHIFT POSITIONS. OUR VIEW REGARDING ALTERNATIVE ONE ABOVE IS THAT NO REPLY WOULD TEND TO BE INTERPRETED AS CLEARER SIGN OF ALLIED ACQUIESCENCE IN SOVIET ASSERTIONS THAN WOULD TEXT REFTEL B AND THAT LESSER OF TWO UNDESIRABLES WOULD BE TO AGREE TO THAT TEXT. RE ALTERNATIVE TWO ABOVE, WE DOUBT VERY MUCH IF BRITISH (WHO HAVE BEEN THE HARDEST-LINERS ON ENTIRE MATTER--SEE BONN 1664) WOULD COME AROUND.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS.
HILLENBRAND

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